

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0011] of the published application with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0011] The invention is also related to a suture passer for inserting a suture through tissue. The suture passer includes an elongate body having proximal and distal ends, a first jaw disposed on the distal end of the body and having a first magnetic element, and a second jaw disposed on the distal end of the body and having a second magnetic element. At least one of the first and second magnetic elements is an electromagnet and the other can be made of a magnetizable material. A handle is disposed on the proximal end of the body for manipulation of the suture passer and a controller is provided for operating the electromagnet. The first and second jaws are movable relative to each other from a closed position to an open position and one of the polarity and strength of the electromagnet is changed to move the first and second jaws to the open and closed positions.